HON'BLE MEMBERS.—Yes.

Mr. SPEAKER.—The House is agreeable. Question hour is extended by half-an-hour.

Primary Schools in Khanapur and Belgaum Taluks

64. Sri N. B. SIRDESAI (Khanapur).—

Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the number of villages and Hamlets in Khanapur and Belgaum Taluks where there are no primary schools ;

(*b*) whether Government is aware of the fact that Khanapur and Belgaum taluks are Malnad and Backward Taluks and the Hamlets and villages therein are situated at distant places and they are very thinly populated ;

(*c*) whether Government have ever considered that the present conditions regarding the minimum number of students and population for opening new primary schools can never be fulfilled in Malnad area and the thinly populated and scattered villages and Hamlets will never get educational facilities at that rate ;

(*d*) if so, whether there is any proposal to relax the condition regarding the number of students from 40 to 15 and the population of a village from 250 to 50 with a view to provide educational facilities in these villages ?

A.—Sri N. M. KOTRABASAIAH SOGI (Deputy Minister for Education). —

(*a*) Khanapur ... 10
Belgaum ... 6

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) It will be too costly to provide separate schools in such areas.

Such thinly populated areas will have to be served by peripatetic schools, centrally located residential schools and hostels.

(*d*) This is not considered necessary.

Sri N. B. SIRDESAI. —There are no primary schools in 10 villages in Khanapur Taluk and in 6 villages in Belgaum Taluk. So, will the Government extend special concession to these malnad hamlets if Government really and seriously mean extending educational facilities ?

Sri N. M. KOTRABASAIAH SOGI.—Educational facilities for thinly populated areas will be provided by peripatetic schools centrally located residential schools and hostels.

Sri N. B SIRDESAI.—Is there any proposal to study the situation and the requirement of that area and reconsider the answer given to question (*d*) ?

Sri N. M. KOTRABASAIAH SOGI.—While providing educational facilities, the following aspects are taken into consideration:—population of the village, expected strength of children for the school, building facilities, and the nearness of the village to the schools. It is not possible to provide to primary school for any village where we cannot expect a student strength of at least 20 for the Maland area and 10 for any other areas.

Mr. SPEAKER.—The hon. Member is not present to put question No. 61. Now Question 66.

Gram Panchayat Elections in Aland Taluk

66. Sri D. B. KALMANKAR (Aland).—

Will the Minister for Development be pleased to state : —

(*a*) whether the public of Hal Tadkal-Walwandwadi-Nasirwadi-Snukerwadi in Aland Taluka has bycotted the recent Gram Panchayat elections and if so, the reasons for such a boycot ;

(*b*) whether some persons were nominated by the Deputy Commissioner, Gulbarga on Gram Panchayat Committee of Tadkal for the said villages and if so, on whose recommendations ;

(*c*) whether Government have examined the legality of such nominations ?

A.—Sri P. M. NADGOUDA (Minister for Development).—

(*a*) No.
(*b*) Yes. On the recommendation of the Tahsildar, Aland.
(*c*) No.

Sri D. B. KALMANKAR.—Has it not come to the notice of the Government that the people of these hamlets have represented that their hamlets may be converted into villages and separated from the Circle ?

Sri P. M. NADGOUDA.—No. Government is not aware of such a proposal.

Sri D. B. KALMANKAR.—May I know what are the names of those persons who have been nominated for the Gram Panchayat and to what village they belong ?

Sri P. M. NADGOUDA.—The nominations for the remaining groups are four. They have been nominated from Group Number 4 consisting of Tadkal and three villages.